

### ANTWERP: A LATTER-DAY ATHENS

Antwerp, where the United States athletes performed so notably in the 1920 Olympic games, was Europe's Hamburg of the sixteenth century and the Athens of the seventeenth. This city compels American admiration by its phenomenal power to "come back." Crushed by wars, inquisitions, economic bans and persecutions of its people, Antwerp always has risen again.

Figures tell the story. Population in 1568, 125,000; twenty years later, only 55,000. From 1590 to 1850 the population almost doubled. The 250,000 in 1904, a hundred thousand more were added before the Germans came in October, 1914. The 12,100 vessels that passed in and out of its fine harbor in 1905 marked an increase of more than 50 per cent since 1888.

Not that Antwerp is a perennial boom town. It is at least 15 centuries old. And during that time its story is one of struggle against repeated tragedies. When the Germans invaded the city its noble cathedral tower looked down on just one more, though infinitely more cruel, blow of the sort it had been receiving since the middle ages. Napoleon (some say Charles V) compared this tower to Mechin lace. Its delicate chiseling forms a network of stone embroidery against the sky that can be seen from the surrounding flat country, and from the winding Scheldt, long before any other building in Antwerp is visible.

By 1890, five hundred ships often came and went from Antwerp's harbor in a day and two thousand wagon-loads of merchandise usually entered its gates. A thousand foreign business houses were represented there. Its own merchant princes dwelt in almost regal splendor.

Amid this material wealth noble works of art were created. In the city's museum were specimens of its glorious school—paintings by Van Dyck, the Teniers, Meunier, Massys, Jordaens, Jan van Eyck and Rubens, though the last named was better represented in the cathedral by his masterpiece, "The Descent From the Cross," and two other noted works.

In the Museum Plantin were relics of that Elbert Hubbard of the middle ages, Christophe Plantin, whose press product was no less distinctive when heretic pamphlets were struck off than when devout religious works were printed and embossed.

During the religious disturbances of the mid-sixteenth century the cathedral, then considered second only to St. Peter's at Rome, was pillaged by the iconoclasts. Its images and pictures, its magnificent vases, its 66 altars and its great organ, considered the finest of its time, were burned or broken by the torch-bearing vandals. Whitewashed walls reminded twentieth-century tourists of these depredations.

Other churches were ravaged at that time. But what Antwerp suffered then was mild compared to the horrors of "the Spanish Fury" in 1576, when that latter day Nero, the duke of Alva, and his Council of Blood, began a reign of terror which savagery scarcely can surpass. Tying wealthy citizens to horses' tails, he would drag them miles to "trial."

Antwerp suffered grievously from this debauch of hangings, quarterings, beheadings and butcheries. In three days 8,000 of her men, women and children were slain, burned or drowned; hundreds of the fine marble houses destroyed, and the equivalent of millions of dollars worth of property wrecked.

It was seven years later that the doughty citizens of Antwerp made short shrift of the duke of Anjou's plotting against Flemish liberty. When the duke and his men overcame the Flemish guard of a drawbridge, and 3,000 of the duke's troops rushed in to take the city, workmen fought furiously with their own shovels, and citizens grabbed arquebuses and chewed coins into shape to load them.

### FINLAND: WHERE WOMEN WON VOTE BY HELPING SETTLE A STRIKE

Victory for woman suffrage in the United States adds interest to the experiences of Finland, where women won the franchise by their part in quelling labor troubles similar to those which now assail the United States. Incidentally, Finland was one of the first portions of the old Russian empire to set up a constitutional government.

The advent and progress of suffrage in Finland is described in a communication to the National Geographic society by Baroness Alina Koff as follows:

"From an educational point of view the women of Finland have been very fortunate, as there are many excellent schools for girls and a number of educational schools throughout the country, which prepare students for the university examinations. Girls were admitted to the university in 1878 and, until the war intervened, they not only attended lectures but took part in all branches of university life; they participated in all the celebrations and festivities, and were members of the various clubs and student organizations, in which they were a footing of perfect equality with the men, and frequently were elected to various official positions. After they were graduated from one of the several high schools or from the university, there were many branches of work open to them.

"Having thus such an excellent foundation to build upon, it is small wonder that the woman's movement soon found many active supporters. In 1863 the diet had accorded the municipal vote to women taxpayers living in the country, and in 1872 to women living in the towns, all of whom were also given the right to be elected members of certain local self-governing bodies. In 1900 the women social democratic program, but the special activity for the suffrage began only in the year 1904, although in 1897 a petition had been officially presented to the diet at the request of the Finnish Women's association."

"The reason why so little was done in direct furtherance of the cause of woman suffrage between the years 1897 and 1904 is that at that time Finland was passing through a severe political crisis.

"After the outbreak of the October revolution in Russia (1905), a sympathetic strike was declared in Finland and several of the members of the central committee elected by a mass-meeting to manage the details of the strike were women.

"The first action taken by the committee was to close all the liquor shops, saloons and barrooms, and to organize a volunteer police force to keep order. After the second day the markets were reopened and the strikers were not allowed to cut off the water supply. In short, the strike was managed in a most orderly and systematic way, and no outrages of any sort were committed."

### FUTURE OF SYRIA AFFECTS CIVILIZED WORLD

More and more frequently the spotlight swings to Syria. The Syrians declared their country independent, and chose Prince Faisal as king. Faisal reigned a few days. The French set up a temporary government, and now Faisal seeks restoration.

Syria's future concerns the entire world, for it is coming into its own as a result of new railways which make it once more a link band in history's chain. Explaining the significance of recent events, a communication by Maynard Owen Williams says:

"Syria closes the east end of the Mediterranean and is bounded on the north by the Taurus mountains. The



A Woman of Syria.

Syria and Arabia deserts limit further settlement to the east and south. But in connection with world commerce it has always been closely related to the fertile valleys of the Nile and the twin Mesopotamia rivers, and its commercial life of tomorrow cannot be divorced from that of Mesopotamia.

"The future of Syria depends upon the development of two ports and upon who controls these strategic centers of politics and commerce. Alexandria and Haifa attain now importance as the Dardanelles are internationalized and free passage, open to all nations, cuts across what Germany was forging as a Berlin-to-Bagdad route, all but 300 miles of which, between Atlin and Tektir, a few miles shore Samarra, is now complete.

"This new line of traffic from Alexandria past Aleppo to the Euphrates river at Jerusalem, connecting the oldest routes of international commerce, also separates two important linguistic groups, for Turkish is generally spoken to the north of the railway and Arabic to the south.

"Whatever political adjustment is made between England and France, Italy and Greece, Arabia and Syria, conservative Moslem and liberal Reform, Zionist and Greek Orthodox, Christian and Moslem, Maronite and Druse, the line of division between the Turkish and Arabic tongues will be significant, for language differences as well as those of race exert a profound effect on political life in the Levant.

"Syria is the hub of the Afro-Eurasian continents, and with every railway that reaches out to Persia, Baku, Bokhara, Burma or Bismarck, the central region of the world's greatest land-mass achieves new significance.

"Aside from its importance as a trade route, Syria will find its great future as an agricultural nation, and has extensive regions which can be made to produce large crops."

### RUMANIA: PAWN OF MANY

Rumania, which has attracted attention recently because of the visit of Prince Carol to this country, has been a center of European war since for a thousand years.

Peter the Great once established a protectorate over the Rumanians and Catherine the Great later advanced a plan for the annexation of their territory to Russia. Fearing that such territorial expansion might be a menace to her, Austria persuaded Catherine to abandon that plan.

Rumania, as we now know it, was formed from Moldavia and Wallachia in 1859. Previously these principalities had been under Turkish suzerainty, following Austria's protest

against Russia annexing them. Autonomy being guaranteed by the powers which agreed to the union of the principalities, following the Crimean war, Rumanians chose an army officer, Col. Alexander Curza, as their ruler. His title was Alexander John I, prince of Rumania.

When seven years later, the element in power at Bucharest decided for a change of rulers there were few formalities. Invading the prince's bedroom by night, leaders of the group presented a certificate of abdication to be signed, and then bundled him in a carriage and put him aboard an express for Paris.

The count of Flanders, brother to King Leopold of Belgium, was chosen by a provisional government. The powers, especially Austria, protested, and Prince Charles (Carol), who had been an officer in the Prussian army, was substituted. He set about freeing the country from the suzerainty of Turkey.

When the Russo-Turkish storm clouds arose in 1875, Charles sought to have the powers guarantee the neutrality of Rumania. He failed. Then an agreement was reached with Russia. Under its terms Russian soldiers were to have free passage through Rumania, while Russia was to respect the rights and defend the integrity of Rumania.

When the war began Rumania promptly declared herself independent of Turkey. As the war went on Russia proved help badly and finally Rumania responded to repeated appeals. Under Prince Carol, Rumanian and allied troops gained a decisive but costly victory before Plevna. Rumanian freedom was recognized in the treaty of San Stefano, and it furthermore was stipulated that Rumania was to get the swampy country known as Dobruja, lying between the Danube, where it flows to the north, and the Black sea. Russia was to have Bessarabia, territory claimed by Rumania and in part occupied by her.

Rumania protested bitterly against exchange of picturesque Bessarabia for the ugly Dobruja region. Russia threatened to disarm the Rumanian army, and Prince Carol pluckily responded that his army might be destroyed but it never would be disarmed.

The Russo-Turkish treaty of San Stefano was overturned by the congress of Berlin, but Russia's aim in Bessarabia was not denied. Thus Rumania, after helping Russia in her plight, came out of the war with less than she had when she went in.

### CANADA MAY ADOPT AN ESKIMO INDUSTRY

Conversion of the arctic and sub-arctic regions of Canada into a reindeer meat producing area is being considered by the Canadian government and is being widely discussed throughout the dominion.

A communication to the National Geographic society recalls that reindeer were not indigenous to Alaska, and tells the interesting story of their introduction there.

"The story of the inception and growth of the reindeer enterprise in Alaska is very interesting and is not generally known," says the writer. "During an extended trip of inspection of the missionary stations and government schools in 1890, Dr. Sheldon Jackson, then general agent of education in Alaska, was impressed with the fact that the natives in arctic and subarctic Alaska were rapidly losing their sources of food supply.

"Doctor Jackson saw that unless something was done at once the United States would have to choose between feeding the 20,000 and more natives or letting them starve to death. "The same moss which covered so many thousands of miles of the plains of arctic Siberia was seen everywhere in Alaska. The tame reindeer was practically the same animal as the wild caribou of Alaska, changed by being domesticated for centuries.

"On his return to the United States in 1891, Doctor Jackson asked congress for an appropriation to provide the money for importing a few deer. Congress was not convinced of the wisdom of such action, but several private persons were so interested that they placed \$2,000 at Doctor Jackson's disposal to begin the experiment. The first deer were brought over that year. It was not long before the government realized the importance of the movement, and in 1894 appropriated the sum of \$6,000 to continue the work. Later the appropriation was increased and by 1899 amounted to \$25,000 annually."

### PLUMBER BOUGHT A COROT

And Art Deal Which Family Condemned Netted a Profit of \$71,000 for His Estate.

It would seem that the plumber's capacity for making money is not necessarily confined to his business.

William B. McCormick, writing in Arts and Decoration, tells of one with nothing except his instinct to guide him who bought a superb Corot that enriched his estate by many thousands of dollars.

During the exhibition of a famous collection of art objects in New York, twenty-five years ago, the attendant in the gallery where the collection was shown noticed an unfamiliar and not very well-dressed man spending a considerable time each day in front of Corot's "Lake Nemi." One of the pictures in the collection. On making inquiries they found he was a well-to-do plumber, wholly unknown in the picture-buying world. It appeared later that he told his family he intended to buy the painting if possible and there was a fine family row over the matter. But he stuck to his plan and on the night the canvas came up for sale it was knocked down to him for \$14,000. As long as he lived his family never forgave him for his extravagance. But they were forced to change their opinion of his action later. For when the painting was sold after his death it brought \$85,000. No single investment of this man's life-time ever brought him so large a profit.

Organized unity builds the community. Be a builder through the Alma Chamber of Commerce.

### HAD A DEGREE OF MERCY

Executioners of Chinese Robber, Sentenced to Be Buried Alive, Shortened His Agony.

A correspondent in China sends the following:

In Ha Tony, a little village just north of Canton city, there lived one Tsao Ah Sum. There was shrewd suspicion that he had stolen many oxen—fifteen, to be precise. The ox is a sacrosanct beast of burden, and under village law to steal one is a capital offense. Tsao Ah Sum stole his last ox a month or two ago, and when the hue and cry went out he fled. He was eventually caught and he had to face trial before the elders of three villages, for he had not confessed his depredations to his immediate neighborhood. He was found guilty and given the maximum penalty, namely, to be buried alive. On the day of execution the village watchmen beat the gongs and all the young men of the village gathered around a rectangular eight feet deep. Before Tsao Ah Sum was invited to make his resting place in the hole he was feasted with wine and meat while the elders performed sacrifices for the benefit of his soul. The rite being ended two watchmen lowered Tsao Ah Sum into the hole, head downward, and while all the young men and spectators shouted the watchmen of another village shot at the convict with a native gun loaded with shot which pierced the body of the victim in numerous places.

### Coral Reefs Far From Ocean.

Mention of coral reefs naturally brings to one's mind a picture of palm-dotted inlets girt with white sands in a tropical sea, but geologists have found coral reefs in the middle of the great continents. These, of course, belong to the past ages of the earth's history, and Paleozoic corals have been found in the Timan-Urals and in the Salurian rocks of the New Siberian Islands, but the most striking characteristics of these fossil corals are similar to those of the corals of today. It is assumed that you refer to a number of remarkable coral reefs that within recent years have been explored near Bainbridge, on the Flint river, in Georgia. These reefs are ascribed to the Tertiary age, and in one case a very large portion of the reef exposed consisted of coral heads, some of which were more than a foot in diameter. Between 25 and 30 species of coral have been recognized in these reefs.

### No Husband Is Perfect.

Don't expect all the virtues in one man. If he is good natured he may be lazy; if he is scholarly, he may be cold; if he is thrifty, he may be stingy; if he is generous, he may be wasteful; if he is smooth, he may be deceitful. The man who charms you with his immaculate appearance is likely to be something of an old maid; the man who is careful to pick threads off your skirt is prone to pick flaws in you; the man who takes an undue interest in the selection of your hats may take an undue interest in the bill which comes home; the man who, before marriage, jumps to open the door, lost your fingers be contaminated by the knob, may after marriage, allow those same fingers to be contaminated by the washboard—Woman's Home Companion.

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### ATTENTION TO DISABLED MEN

Many Posts Join in Campaign to Provide Aid and Care for Afflicted Ex-Servicemen.

Quick response has been manifested by scores of posts of the Legion in the campaign launched by the Americanism commission to aid and care for disabled service men. Reports from all sections of the country tell of entertainments arranged for the wounded and of visits to the hospitals where they are confined.

Eight service men who are now in the Fox Hills (N. Y.) hospital have been assigned to the Scarsdale post, which is planning to look after them following their discharge from the institution, while the New Haven (Conn.) post presents a weekly entertainment for the 400 veterans convalescing in the hospital in that city.

Plans along similar lines are being carried out by the John Purroy Mitchell post of New York city, which has appointed a committee to advise and assist wounded men in the Polyclinic hospital, and a group of patients from this institution are entertained each week at the Knollwood Country club at White Plains. The men are taken out into the country in motorcars.

Henry J. Ryan, state Americanism chairman of Massachusetts, arranged an outing when many soldier convalescents in the hospitals in and around Boston were motored to a country estate in Chestnut Hill, where they were guests at a luncheon and a horse show was staged for their benefit.

### The Nation's Position.

We stand against all tyranny. We stand for the rule of the many in the interest of all of us, in a spirit of courage, of common sense, of high purpose, and with kindly justice toward every man and every woman.—Theodore Roosevelt.

### 'The Lost City'

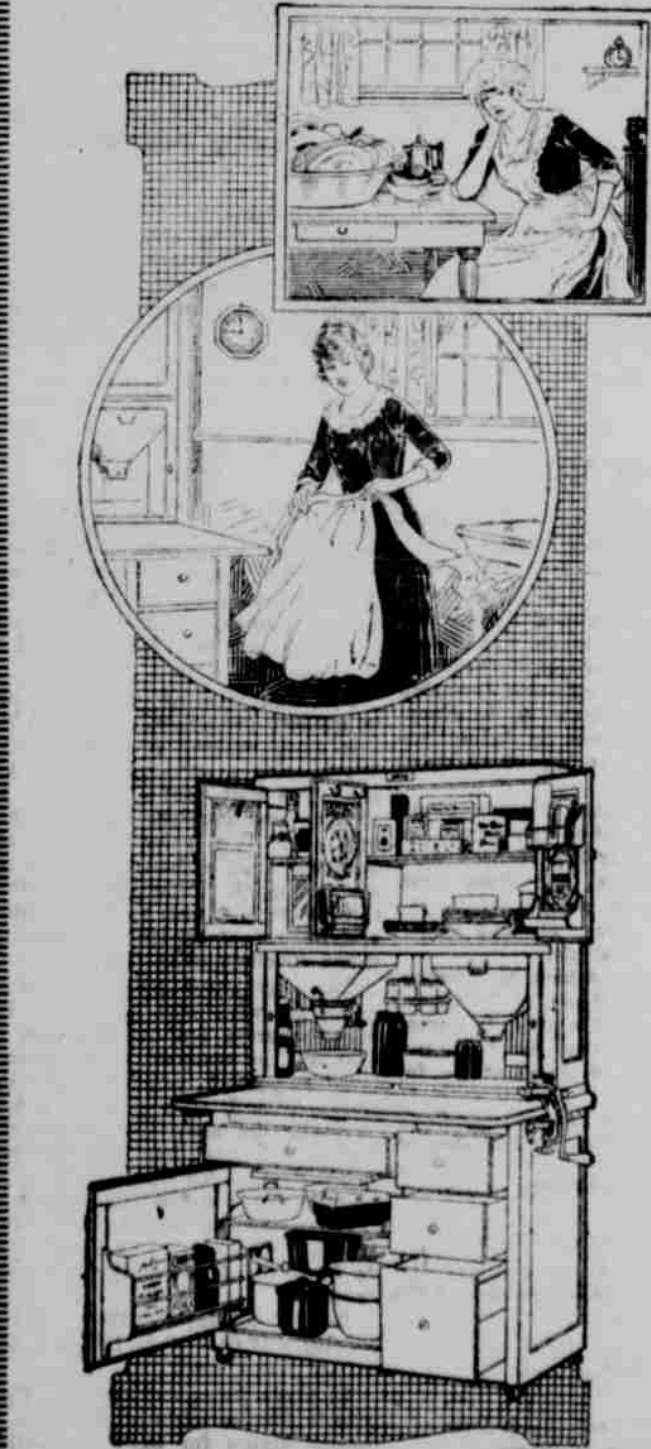
Chapter 2

Strand Theater

Thursday and Friday



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